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# GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

(INCLUDING ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY)

## BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch.)

### NORTH AMERICA

#### **Die Erzlagerstätten der Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika**

mit Einschluss von Alaska, Cuba, Portorico und den Philippinen nach Geschichte, Form, Inhalt und Entstehung. Von Charles L. Henning. xviii and 293 pp. Maps, ills., index. Ferdinand Enke, Stuttgart, 1911. 10 x 6½.

The author has compiled for German readers a partial synopsis of the work done in mining geology in the United States. As might be expected, the important results obtained by the geologists of the U. S. Geological Survey figure conspicuously throughout the text. In more than one respect the book might be defined as a review of the work done by this federal bureau in the past twenty years.

Some notes on the founding and organization of this celebrated institution have been inserted in the first few pages. We have looked in vain, however, for an appreciation of the strong impetus given to this scientific work through the growing recognition of its value by the more important mining companies.

The short but comprehensive sketch of the mining laws of the United States and the method of locating claims in the various States will enable readers to understand American procedure in this respect. A synopsis of the views of some American geologists on that phase of metamorphism which deals more particularly with the genesis of ores is given. This refers mainly to the various theories brought forward in the United States in the past decade. To Germans who are unacquainted with the enormous progress made on this side of the Atlantic, this résumé will be instructive, although, here, it is felt that more space might not unappropriately have been devoted to the recent consideration of many of the deposits as extreme products of magmatic differentiation. The Great Basin region in particular, and the numerous mines scattered elsewhere, wherein the occurrence of ores is directly connected with former manifestations of volcanic activity supply data which are bound to be of the utmost value to foreign students.

Lindgren's classification of metallogenetic epochs precedes the review of the various ores which appear to have been classed in the order of their relative commercial importance. Their occurrence in the United States and possessions will also reveal to German readers the mass of details accumulated by American mining geologists who have had the advantage of examining the heavily exploited districts of their country. Therein lies the chief interest of this work.

The text offers much of geographic value regarding the occurrence of minerals of economic importance in the two broad zones, roughly east and west of the Rockies, in which the author divides the United States for purposes of economic mineralogy. This also holds true with regard to the regional distribution of these ores. It should be stated here that a comprehensive map showing such distribution would have interpreted far more adequately many a phase of the subject. Its value would have at least been equal to that of the excellent glossary of technical terms appended to the text. All told, the author certainly deserves the gratitude of German students for enabling them to draw on the valuable data accumulated in this country and which might possibly have been through their reach otherwise.

LEON DOMINIAN.

**The Silva of California.** By Willis Linn Jepson. 283 pp. Vol. 2. plates, maps, and indexes. *Mem.* of the Univ. of California. Berkeley, 1910. \$10. 13 x 10 each.

This highly important and well-executed work will be a standard reference